

# INQUIRY RESULTED IN \$3,000,000,000 N. Y. TAX INCREASE

President of Commission Re-  
fuses to Discuss Rumor of  
Federal Revelations.

## INCOME BOOKS IN QUESTION

Figures Made Up on August 1  
Were Suddenly Changed.  
"Dodgers" Warned.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—Secret information supplied to special investigators of the tax department is responsible for the startling increase in the tentative personal property assessments for 1916 of more than \$3,000,000,000, it is learned.

It is admitted at the tax department that the investigators secured this knowledge recently, and, acting on it, the tentative personal property assessments for 1916 which already has been made up were changed immediately and the huge increases were made.

The tax books showing the personal property assessments against corporations verified that the figures which were made up on August 1, 1915, for 1916 were suddenly changed. In some cases the latest increases range from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 over the original 1915 assessments.

Lawson W. Purdy, president of the tax board, admitted that a corps of investigators had supplied the basis for the unprecedented boost in personal property assessments.

He refused absolutely, however, to divulge the source of the investigators' information.

**Federal Books in Question.**  
He was asked if the city agents had been given access to the books of the Federal Government showing the amounts paid by New Yorkers in income taxes. He declined to answer the question.

Some idea may be gained of the immense increases in tentative assessments for personal property against corporations by the fact that for 1916 the books show a tentative assessment of 17,497 corporations of \$887,703,000. The tentative corporate personal assessment for 1915 was approximately \$115,000,000, and the entire tentative assessments for personal property against individuals and corporations last year were approximately \$860,000,000. This year, as has been published, the total personal property assessments are \$2,000,000,000.

The phenomenal increase in the tentative assessments against individuals also was caused by the secret figures placed in possession of the tax officials by the investigators having this information, the significance of the statement issued by the mayor and President Purdy that "tax dodging and perjury" would be rigorously dealt with, can be comprehended.

**Corporations Are Hard Hit.**  
A study of the tax books revealed that in many cases the tax commission had on August 1 approved of tentative assessments against corporations of between \$2,000 and \$50,000. When the reports of the investigators were submitted these figures were crossed out, and the amounts were jumped in some cases to \$1,000,000, and in hundreds of cases from minor amounts to \$200,000.

On top of the sensation caused by the huge increases in personal and real estate values, it was learned that the legislative committee headed by Senator Ogden L. Mills, appointed at the last session of the legislature to investigate the finances of New York City and its system of taxation, will start its inquiry Monday morning in the offices of the Merchants' Association, in the Woolworth building.

The first matter to be taken up by the committee will be the cause of the great increase, and the Mayor, Mitchell, Comptroller William A. Prendergast, and State Comptroller Eugene M. Travis have been subpoenaed to appear before the committee.

**City to Collect Every Dollar.**  
Purdy asserted that he is confident the city will be able to collect every dollar due for taxes, even under the increased assessments.

This was his reply to widespread comment that the city had undertaken a hopeless task—that it never had collected anything like the personal taxes due and never would.

"We expect to see the tentative assessments reduced considerably," he said. "In 1915, for example, our tentative personal property schedule was \$880,640,140, and when taxpayers were through 'sweating off' it was only \$352,651,725. Sweetening will be so easy this year, and even allowing for it the schedule will remain much higher than last year. The valuations have been made so carefully that the department will be certain, when it is through, that it has eliminated the uncollectible amounts."

Protests already have begun. In the rain yesterday many taxpayers appeared to register complaints.

"No one need fear overassessment if

## Week's Summary For Your Scrapbook

**SUNDAY, September 26.**—Greece takes over all railway and steamship lines in connection with the mobilization of 360,000 men. Bulgaria issues an official statement that her mobilization does not mean hostile intention, but merely a state of armed neutrality. Anglo-French troops, in beginning of drive on western front, make valuable gains in Belgium, Artois, and Champagne. Russians recapture Lusk and battle fiercely to save Dwinsk from the Austro-Germans. American stand on submarine warfare causes shake-up in German navy.

**MONDAY, September 27.**—French in terrific two-day battle smash German line in Champagne, driving the enemy back nearly three miles and taking 20,000 prisoners, large number of guns and great amount of war material. British take German trenches south of Basse canal on front of five miles and penetrate German line to a depth of 4,000 yards. Russians on offensive northwest of Minsk, but Germans throw enemy back across the Beresina river near Sabrasina.

**TUESDAY, September 28.**—Allied lines in west hold against German attempts to regain lost ground. Five German army corps ordered from east to west front. Berlin says western offensive has broken down. British make further gains in Artois. In the east Germans gain control of the railway triangle Lida-Wolkowsk-Baronwitscha, endangering Russian rear guard. Berlin reports that Bulgaria has sent an ultimatum to Serbia.

**WEDNESDAY, September 29.**—American financiers and Anglo-French commission agree on terms of \$500,000,000 loan. Sir Edward Grey announces in house of commons that Great Britain and her allies in the event of a Bulgarian attack on Serbia will throw full weight of power to assist the latter. Allies in west attacking third German line in Artois and Champagne. Berlin admits the escape of nearly all of "trapped" Russian Wilna army. A full German army corps is reported to have been lost through floods in the Pinsk marshes.

**THURSDAY, September 30.**—French official report says that Germans lost more than 120,000 men in four days through allied drive in the west and that French are still advancing. Berlin reports that British and French troops have landed in Greece to support Serbia. Turks in Mesopotamia in full retreat toward Bagdad pursued by British.

**FRIDAY, October 1.**—In continuance of offensive in west, French pierce German second line in Champagne and threaten railroad serving crown prince's army in the Argonne. Berlin announces the annihilation of a French brigade (3,000 men) between Rheims and the Argonne. Greece puts Macedonia in state of siege and authorizes loan of \$30,000,000. Five hundred thousand Austro-Germans said to be ready for invasion of Serbia. Germans renew drive against Dwinsk.

**SATURDAY, October 2.**—French pursue offensive in spite of desperate German counter attacks. German press admits menace of allied drive. British reply to American charges of discrimination against American trade says that American exports to northern European neutrals have increased to much greater extent than British exports, and flatly denies charges. Sir Edward Grey says that German and Austrian army officers have been arriving in Sofia for several days. Germans gain again on Wilna road and announce taking of 95,000 Russians in September.

he will take the trouble to make personal application for a correction," said Purdy. "Before the final tax rolls are completed every care will be exercised to see that no injustice is done either to the city or to the taxpayer."

Senator William M. Bennett, counsel of the Society for the Prevention of Municipal Waste and the Protection of Property Rights, issued a statement predicting that the increases in personal property schedules will mean \$70,000,000 of uncollectible taxes and sound the death knell of the Mitchell administration. He charged that the real purpose of the increase is to enable the administration to keep the tax rate down to two cents on the dollar. He said: "The purpose of the rate is, of course, to keep the tax rate low. The city will probably have to raise \$200,000,000 for the coming year. To get this from the 1915 assessments would require a tax rate of 3 per cent, which would be beyond the constitutional tax rate limit of 2 per cent, plus the debt service. What easier method, therefore, is there to keep the tax rate down to 2 per cent than to inflate the valuation to approximately \$2,000,000,000?"

The comptroller, in his report of July 24, calls attention to the fact that there are \$20,000,000 uncollectible personal taxes outstanding, of which he says, \$4,000,000 are uncollectible. This act of the city administration in adding \$700,000,000 more of uncollectible taxes to the already existing \$4,000,000 shows that the city is governed by a lot of inexperienced amateurs."

**Urges Competitive Tests For West Point Entrants**  
Competitive examinations to select candidates for West Point are urged in the annual report of Col. C. P. Townsley, superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point, to Secretary of War Garrison.

Colonel Townsley said that 16 candidates nominated by Congressmen had failed to report for examination. Members of Congress could obviate this, he believed, by arranging competitive examination to select candidates.

**Watches, Diamonds, Jewelry Etc.**  
Pay 50c a Week  
Phone Main 655 and Salesman  
WILLIAM  
H. A. SEABRIGHT JEWELRY CO.  
562 F St. N. W.

**\$550**  
**Player-Piano**  
Slightly Used  
**\$325**  
Terms Arranged  
**J. J. J.**  
G St. at 13th

## CAPITAL'S TAILORS' ART TO BE DISPLAYED

National Style Show and Dan-  
sant Call Into Service 15  
Living Models.

The national style show and danc-  
sant will give its sixth exhibition at Ra-  
ucher's ballroom, October 28, 29, and  
30. It will be under the direction of  
Charles J. Columbus.

An attractive prospectus has been  
issued, and reservations have been  
made by six prominent merchants.  
The exhibition will be confined ex-  
clusively to Washington interests.  
"Washington leads the nation in  
many ways," said Mr. Columbus, "but  
in no way is its preeminence better  
established than as a shopping center."

## Canada Bars German Newspaper From Mail

The Abendpost and the Illinois Staats-  
Zeitung, German newspapers of Chi-  
cago, have been barred from the Cana-  
dian mails because, it is claimed, of  
their attitude in the war.  
Notice to this effect has been sent by  
the Postoffice Department to Postmas-  
ter D. A. Campbell at Chicago.

## Wife Beating Expensive.

LA CROSSE, Kan., Oct. 3.—Four hun-  
dred dollars has been set as the price  
that husbands must pay who beat their  
wives in Rush county. Joseph Stremel  
was convicted in Justice Lank's court  
of beating his wife, and appealed the  
case to the district court. It was set-  
tled here recently in Judge Poulk's  
court by the defendant paying a fine  
of \$400 and costs, which amounted to  
about \$500.

## SAILOR SLAYS WIFE, MAID, AND HIMSELF

Was Angered When Refused  
Part of \$93,000 Left by  
Father-in-Law.

BRIT, Pa., Oct. 3.—Angered because  
she refused him money, Charles Han-  
son, forty-nine, a sailor, killed his wife,  
a servant, and himself.

When the police arrived at the Han-  
son home, the maid, Teresa Sina, was  
still alive. She died while being taken  
to a hospital. Hanson and his wife had  
apparently been instantly killed. A  
cheap revolver was used.  
According to neighbors, Hanson had  
trouble with his wife frequently. Her  
father, Andrew Slegler, who died a year  
ago in Cleveland, left \$93,000 to be di-  
vided between Mrs. Hanson and a

brother, Earl, who lives in Buffalo.  
Hanson's children, Charles Edward,  
two, and Lenora, nine, witnessed the  
double murder and suicide. Thomas  
Fisher also witnessed the tragedy, and  
sat, when the police arrived, numb and  
unable to speak. When revived the child  
Lenora became hysterical.  
A heavy wooden club, loaded at one  
end with lead, was used in the struggle  
that evidently preceded the shooting.  
According to the story told by Lenora  
Hanson, the seventeen-year-old servant  
attempted to help Mrs. Hanson when  
her husband attacked her.

## Bride Has 18 Children.

CAMDEN, N. J., Oct. 3.—George  
Washington Henry, of Hurlville, be-  
came the stepfather of eighteen children  
when he was married to Mrs. Henrietta  
Verfili, who keeps a store in Gloucester.  
She is sixty-four years old and  
her husband is nine years her junior.

**JEWELRY**  
Cash Prices  
Easy Payments  
**SCHWARTZ**  
708-7th St. N. W.

**Women Contemplating Buying a  
Suit Can't Afford to Miss These  
Three Great Suit Specials**

**\$15.00 Coat Suits \$8.77**  
Newest flared model of  
sueded style of suit in  
weights suitable for win-  
ter wear. Made of waffle  
novelty cloth in rich  
shades of brown, blue,  
green, and black and all-  
wool storm serges. Finely  
lined with good wearing  
satin. Armholes protected  
with satin dress shields.  
Five beautiful models for  
misses and women.

**\$17.50 Suits \$11.77**  
Women's and misses' hand-  
some fall suits of storm  
serge, whipcord and all-  
wool gabardine. Styles in-  
clude the elegant man-  
tailored plain models with  
buffed edged broad lapels,  
seamfitted coat with guar-  
anteed satin lining, rich-  
ly silk braided trimmed  
styles, evidencing the  
dreadnought of this autumn's  
handsomest models.

**\$25.00 to \$30.00 Coat Suits, \$15.77**  
Women accustomed to paying to \$30 for  
suits will recognize the real value of these  
three great suits. Made of finest of silk and wool  
poplins, gabardines, and broadcloth, in the  
popular fur-trimmed collar and cuff styles or  
the dressy military effect, with standing col-  
lar and silk frog fastened front. In blue, green,  
brown, gray, and black.

**The Very Best Dress and Waist  
Values Are Here Tomorrow**

**\$15.00 Taffeta, Crepe  
Meteor and Serge Dresses,  
\$9.99**  
Wonderfully beautiful fall  
model Dresses of elegant silk  
crepe meteor, taffeta, messa-  
line and French serge. Made  
in the new pleated skirt or 2-  
tiered models, with exquisite-  
ly trimmed bodices. Some  
have chiffon sleeves.

**\$6.98 Silk  
Dresses \$1.85**  
18 nice quality satin mes-  
seline Dresses, 3 serge  
Dresses, remainders of closed-  
out lines that sold to \$6.98.  
Colors include black, blue,  
brown, and green. Mostly  
small sizes.

**\$2.69 New White 98c  
Waists**  
Hundreds of entirely new  
styles of Waists. Made of  
French crepe, voiles, satin  
striped crepe de chine and  
corried nainsooks in ele-  
gant and lavishly lace  
and medallion trimmed  
styles or strictly tailored  
effects.

**Beautiful \$3.50 Lace,  
Plaids and  
Stripe Waists \$1.95**  
Fall's newest conceptions.  
Rich stripes, checks, or  
plaid Silk Waists in beau-  
tiful shades of blue, green,  
gray, brown, &c. In fact  
any color to match your  
suit or hat. Also all-over  
beautiful lace garments in  
white and ecru.

**GREATEST COAT VALUES IN WASHINGTON**

**\$10.00 Coats. Beautiful Styles \$4.99**  
Long & short Coats of  
white chinchilla, corduroy,  
plain color, Bedford and nob-  
by mannish mixtures in rich  
gray, green colorings. Styles  
include the latest flared effects.

**\$20 Black Ural \$11.95**  
Lamb Coats...  
Handsome Dress Coats of  
imported Ural Lamb that re-  
sembles the \$40 or \$50 gar-  
ments so closely as to make  
detection almost impossible.  
Finely satin lined and made  
with broad shawl collar and  
beautiful silk frog fastened.

**\$16.50 Winter \$9.95**  
and Fall Coats.  
Black broadcloth, velvet,  
corduroy, cunning mannish  
mixtures. Coats in the big-  
gest variety of exclusive  
styles shown in the city. Hundreds  
of extreme models to select  
from. Misses' and women's  
sizes.

**\$7.50 Satin & \$4.95  
Silk Skirts**  
Black Satin and Taffeta  
Silk Skirts have the call for  
dress wear this fall. Finest  
of imported materials used and  
styles include the accordion-  
pleated model, the flared, the  
4-tiered and the belted effects.

**\$5.00 Cloth \$2.99**  
Skirts  
Made of strictly all-wool,  
wide waist, storm serge, in  
black, blue, and gray. New  
6-inch yoke model, with man-  
nish pockets and wide flaring  
bottoms.

**"Where Your Dollars Count Most"**  
**BEHREND'S**  
720-722-724 Seventh St. N. W.

**75c and \$1.00 Handbags, 44c**  
Solid leather Hand-  
bags in the  
melon and oblong  
shapes. Shipped,  
pleated and plain ef-  
fects, with mirror and purse.

**Unbeatable Piece Goods Values**

**25c Dress Goods, 11 1/2c**  
Plain colored serges, 36-inch checks, plaids,  
stripes and novelty effects. Double width goods,  
applied for separate skirts, 1-piece dresses and  
children's dresses.

**8c Apron Gingham, 5c**  
Standard quality Apron Gingham. Absolutely  
fast colors, in a nice assortment of checks. All  
colors.

**10c Colored Striped Outings, 5 1/2c**  
Splendid heavy fleece, pretty pink and blue  
striped outings. Firm, woven fabrics for making  
gowns, nighties, and skirts.

**7c 36-Inch Wide Unbleached Cotton, 3 1/2c**  
Full 36-inch wide Unbleached Cotton of a  
splendid smooth even thread and good weight.  
Quickly bleaches and improves with washing.

**\$1.00 36-Inch Wide Black and Colored  
Messaline Silks, 69c**  
Full yard-wide black and colored messaline  
silks of a splendid body and rich, lustrous finish.  
All beautiful rich street and evening shades.

**39c Dress Goods, 23c**  
Wool serges, crepes, black and white check,  
novelty plaids, stripes, &c. Splendid appearing,  
weight and wearing fabric. Big assortment of  
colors.

**50c Heavy Fleece Teazledown Robing, 24c**  
Reversible robing of the heaviest weight in the  
richest of tones. Suited for lounging robes,  
smoking jackets, bathrobes, &c. Distinctive pat-  
terns.

**Fall Coats for Babies & Girls**

**\$3 Embroidered  
Cashmere  
Coats, \$1.95**  
Long and short  
wool cashmere  
Coats; warmly  
lined; made with  
silk embroidered  
capes.

**\$4.50 Little  
Tot's Coats,  
\$2.98**  
New satin belted  
Coats in stylish  
long-waisted ef-  
fects. Made of black matte lamb,  
chinchilla, &c. In rich shades of  
brown, blue, &c. Some quilted  
lined.

**\$1.50 Girls' Hats, 98c**  
Corduroy, velvet and cloth Hats  
for girls in rich colors to match  
coats and dresses. All the newest  
shapes, with ribbon and feather  
trimmings.

**\$1.00 and 75c Babies' Silk  
Bonnets, 49c**  
Beautiful Dutch  
and French styles  
of bengaline and  
plain silk Bonnets.  
Richly silk em-  
broided and  
trimmed with  
flowers and ribbon.

**\$1.25 Women's Mendel Make  
HOUSE  
DRESSES. 77c**  
Famous Mendel Make, warranted fast  
color, 1-piece Dresses in pretty blue  
and gray mixtures. Sizes 34 to 38 only.

**\$1.39 Long Flannelette  
Kimonos, 98c**  
Pretty light and dark Oriental figured,  
fleece-lined flannelette Kimonos. Pretty  
satin braided trimmings; full cut  
and well made. All sizes, 98c.

**69c Short Flannelette  
Sacques, 49c**  
Fast color, warm, fleece down Sacques,  
made with shirred yokes, belt and cuffs,  
in fitted or loose styles.

**25c Gingham  
Aprons, 14c**  
Full cut, big size waist  
Aprons of good quality  
fast color gingham.

**89c Black Petticoats, 49c**  
Nearsilk Skirts, cut  
wide, with flared ruffles  
that are fire trucked and  
corded.

**\$4.00 Women's Blanket Bath Robes, \$2.49**  
Satin trimmed, all-wool Blanket Robes, in pretty  
light and dark colorings, made with corded stride  
at waist.

**\$1.49 Children's Sweaters, 98c**  
Extra warm  
close-woven sweat-  
ers for big and  
small children. Coat  
style with big  
shawl collar  
can be fastened  
high around the  
neck 2 hip pockets  
and French cuffs.  
Special for Mon-  
day.

**19c Babies' Vests 12 1/2c**  
Fine ribbed but-  
toned down the  
front. Vests for  
babies. Good elas-  
tic quality.

**Babies' Wool Vests 25c**  
Rubin Bands and wool, but-  
toned down the front shirts  
for babies. Silk scalloped fin-  
ished.

**15c Women's Black  
Lisle Hose, 7c**  
Splendid qual-  
ity women's  
fast black lisle  
Hose. Made with  
wide elastic garter  
tops and double  
toes and heels to  
insure extra service.  
The color is  
absolutely fast  
and the stockings  
free from seams.  
All sizes.

**\$4.50 Boys' Suits (with 2 pairs pants) \$2.85**  
Neat, fancy  
stripe mannish  
mixture suits of  
good serviceable  
quality material.  
Newest yoke  
stitched pleated  
Norfolk style  
with a stitched  
belts, regulation  
pockets and two  
pairs knicker-  
bocker pants, & to  
14 years.

**Lace Curtains, Portieres and Bedclothing to Make Home Cozy and Comfortable**

**25c Opaque Window Shades, 19c**  
Not ragged and torn with poor roller,  
but first-class stock. In white, dark green,  
light and medium green and tan.

**25c Sash Curtains, 16c**  
Ruffled border swiss Sash Curtains.  
Run through with tape.

**12 1/2c 36-Inch Wide White Curtain  
Swiss and Lace, 8 1/2c**  
Pretty curtain swisses and laces. Also  
colored serging. Yard wide, in striped and  
pretty figured effects.

**75c to 98c Sill Length and Notting-  
ham Lace Curtains, 55c**  
Dozens of pretty styles in sill length  
Curtains. Ruffle, lace edges, colored bor-  
ders or tops. Also pretty Nottingham  
Lace Curtains. Very special.

**Lace Curtains, actual values up to  
\$2.00, for 98c pair**  
We have 50 different styles, from the  
simplest to the most elaborate designs.  
Sill length to extra wide and ex-  
tra long Nottingham curtains.

**89c Couch Covers, 65c**  
Rich Oriental stripe tapestry Couch  
Covers. Knotted fringe finish. Large  
sizes.

**\$2.00 Portieres, \$1.50**  
Full length and nice width rich, heavy  
Tapestry Portieres. Finished with heavy  
fringed tassels. Colors, red or green.  
Also blended effects.

**75c 81x90 Size Bleached Seam-  
less Sheets, 49c**  
Seamless Sheets made of extra strong  
sheeting cotton. Full \$1.90 value and per-  
fect quality.

**HAIR BEAUTY**  
can be easily and  
permanently attained  
by using  
**Empress**  
Instantaneous  
**HAIR**  
Color  
Restorer  
One application  
restores gray or  
faded hair to any  
color desired in-  
stantly. Any one  
can apply it. No  
afterwash required.  
One Dollar per box.

**Empress**  
Instantaneous  
**HAIR**  
Remover  
Without itching  
the skin. Removes  
Superficial Hair  
Instantly. European  
Deplatory scienti-  
fically compounded  
of soothing oils,  
sweet odor, harm-  
less, antiseptic. 50c  
and 11c.  
Trial bottle, 25c.  
from manufacturer.

**Empress**  
Biker-Hegeman Co., James O'Donnell,  
People's Drug Stores. Also sold and  
applied by Hair Goods Dept., E. Kahn,  
Sons & Co., Katie E. Dunn, 1010 F St.  
N. W., M. Fitzgerald, 52 9th St. N. W.,  
Agnes T. Smith, 92 B St. N. W.,  
**EMPIRESS MFG. CO.,**  
36 West 20th Street, N. Y. C.